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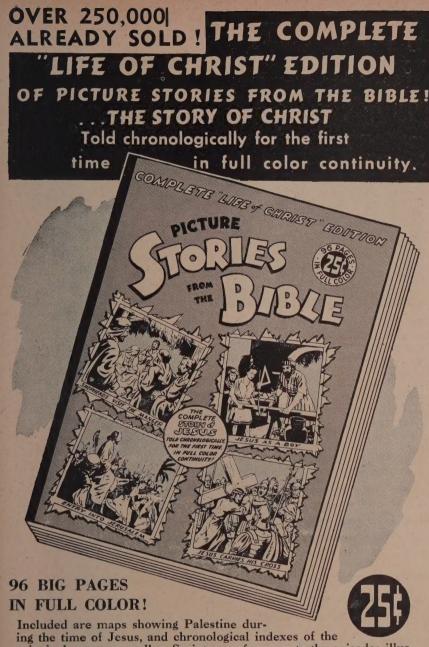


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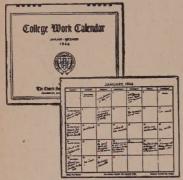
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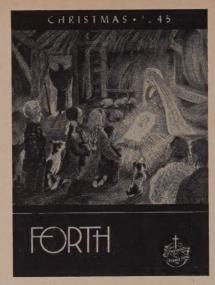
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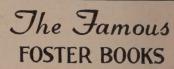
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# Turning the Pages

NE of the greatest joys of an editor is the receipt of an unexpected manuscript, especially one. of such timely significance as The Secret of Christmas by Werner A. Bohnstedt, teacher of Political Science at Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio, and vestryman and lay reader in Trinity Church. Mr. Bohnstedt, born and educated in Germany, had to flee his homeland in 1936 when the Hitler regime made his life in Germany impossible. He fled to Panama where he taught in the University and was active in the Cathedral of St. Luke at Ancon. Five years ago he came to the United States.

Miss Estelle Blyth, who writes of Christmas in Bethlehem, is a daughter of the late Anglican Bishop of Jerusalem. Now living in England, she was a frequent participant in the festivals of which she writes.

Since V-J Day, Forth has been exerting every effort to secure for its readers an adequate picture of the Church in the Orient. In this issue we present Report from the Orient which we hope all our readers will find stimulating and encouraging for the great tasks which lie ahead.

During December, the Reconstruction and Advance Fund educational program emphasizes the work of our Army and Navy chaplains. Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill, long the Chairman of the Army and Navy Commission, who will relinquish that task at the end of this month, has recently been named chairman of the Commission on the Ministry of the Federal Council of Churches. In this new post, Bishop Sherrill will be vitally concerned in providing guidance for servicemen who wish to enter the ministry.

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American servicemen, many of whom will be spending their last Christmas overseas, this year, look forward to the Christmas season as a time of joy and thanksgiving in a world at peace.

# WE CARE FOR THEM

By the Rt. Rev.

# HENRY KNOX SHERRILL, D.D.

Chairman, Army and Navy Commission and Bishop of Massachusetts



Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill of Massachusetts talks to servicemen after holding a service at Wiesbaden, Germany.

THE observations of the Bishop of Massachusetts, who recently visited American servicemen in Europe as chairman of the Church's Army and Navy Commission, have special meaning for families of loved ones in the Armed Forces.

ITHIN a short time millions of men and women who have served months to years in the nation's Armed Forces will be returning to our homes, communities, and parishes to resume civilian life.

With eleven million men engaged in a hazardous undertaking far from home inevitably there are many casualties not only physical but mental as well. This would be true of an equal number of civilians. These men will require the most expert medical attention and the greatest amount of understanding on the part of family and friends. But the overwhelming majority of our service personnel are entirely normal. Nothing I found had disturbed our men abroad more than their fear from reading articles in the home papers that they would be regarded upon their return as so peculiar that they would need extraordinary care and attention. Of course there will be changes; boys under the impact of war will have matured into men. But when that has been said we will find nothing the matter that a

month's rest at home cannot cure. The American young man has many serious faults, but he is in general as we have known him. Among many good qualities he is unselfish, full of fun under the most difficult circumstances, and generous to children and those in need. An American general in Rome told me that our soldiers' kindness to the Italian children had done more than anything else to commend our way of life to the Italian people.

The religion of the serviceman has been widely discussed. The opinion of all the chaplains with whom I talked was that if a man had religion before he entered the service, he still had it and had deepened his faith. If he came into the Army or Navy without religion, he too had not been changed. Of course there are many individuals who break over from each group, but that did not change the general truth. Beyond question all had an emotional experience of religion when in danger. There is the basis of the familiar statement, that there are no atheists in foxholes. But all the chaplains were of the opinion that this experience had little relationship to life and in most cases soon passed away, though in some instances it is possible that it may be recalled with spiritual benefit. Certainly we can have no expectation that there is

to be a great spiritual revival as a result of the servicemen's return. That expectation has always been held out after war. But why we should expect war to generate a great spiritual revival is hard to explain. It never has and will not do so at this time. Why should we demand more of the soldier or the sailor than of ourselves? There are great evils in American life to be faced. With the soldier or the sailor these are more apparent because there is no privacy in military life. In the civilian world there is a veneer which conceals. But the fact, to give one illustration, is that we have a serious battle to fight against immorality. This must be met without false prudery and with all the resources of science and of religion, unless the American home is to be destroyed.

But here again we must not lose a sense of proportion in regard to the soldier and the sailor. I in no way condone the evil, but we must recall the long distance from home, the lone-liness, the youth of many. It is impossible unless you have visited farflung frontiers, to realize the tremendous gulf between life in those places and home. It is literally a different world.

The rectors who have kept in constant touch with their men and women in the service during the war will not

Continued on page 32



St. Luke's Hospital, Tokyo, was operated throughout war.



Only three of twenty-four churches escaped damage in Tokyo.

# Report from the

CHRISTIAN GROUPS

ITH the smoke of battle in the Pacific three months gone, along with the pressing need for strict military secrecy, the world is eagerly awaiting news from areas long blacked out. Christians in all countries have been wondering about the situation of their fellow Christians in Japan. Even since the start of the American occupation, however, it has not been a question of reports passing censors, or even of information being collected and organized. Chaplain C. Leslie Glenn, after four fruitless trips around Tokyo trying to locate some of the Church's clergy, finally met with a small group in St. Luke's Hospital. A long conversation revealed only bits of information.

"They have searched their minds for other scraps of news," he wrote later, "which incidentally is all you have in a country passing through the ordeal of defeat." The first reports out of Japan are incomplete and inconclusive, dealing though they do with information of vital concern to the future of that country and the world. To read them, one must assemble half the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle and guess at the entirety.

The Nippon Sei Ko Kwai, or Holy Catholic Church in Japan, was legally dissolved as a national organization when the Japanese Government set up the National Union Church and de-

manded that all organized Christian bodies become a part of it. Sixty-nine of the 232 Sei Ko Kwai parishes joined the Union. No one can estimate as yet the permanent effect of this organization; it can not even be decided whether its formation was a militarists' scheme for Christian regimentation or the precipitation of that which was inevitable. The other 163 parines remained, unwilling to join, and were allowed to function unobtrusively as "separate churches." Loyal bishops continued to meet as often as possible throughout the war, although at the risk of arrest.

## Japanese Unprepared for Peace

With the swift, unexpected cessation of hostilities, the leaders of the Church in Japan were unprepared to take up at once the reins of authority again. All but three of the twenty-four Episcopal churches in Tokyo were bombed out; many ministers moved to other areas. What property remains

undamaged has suffered serious deterioration. Material loss has been unparalleled. Churchmen in Japan have a long and bitter task ahead.

During the war, Christians were not harmed or suspected. There was, on the other hand, a feeling that they were not so popular as they formerly had been. Many non-Christians felt that Christianity did not fit the times. Now, defeat has in many cases shaken philosophies which led Japan to war. People are greatly in need of spiritual strength, as is indicated by the great demand for Christian books. "Now is the time," said Chaplain Glenn's informants, "the time for Christians to work hard. During the war some of them went to the country to escape bombs-we feel sorry for that action. They should have stayed when their churches burned. This is the most opportune time for new activity in the religious field."

The Japanese Christians ask primarily for American aid in new activities. Some of the missionaries will be wel-



Chaplain C. L. Glenn was one of first to find Japanese clergy.



Tokyo lies in ruins except area near American Embassy.

# Orient: 1 Japan

ER AGAIN IN JAPAN

comed back with great enthusiasm, but the Japanese Church will undoubtedly wish to continue in the path toward self-support along which it was making such progress before the war. If the books are supplied along with material aid, America will be rendering great service.

#### Good Work Done

Actually, the only sizable Church building which has survived the bombing intact seems to be St. Luke's . Hospital in Tokyo which during the war was turned into a civilian hospital and operated to capacity, with good work done. The fate of St. Paul's University, also in Tokyo, was not so mild. In 1942, the Japanese violated the University's charter, by ordering the elimination of Christian teachings, chapel services, and all "foreign influence." They turned the chapel into a storehouse, stripping it of its finest structure, slashing the altar and removing the crosses. The University itself faced the installation of a new

Nationalist program which compelled the Japanese Christian president, Dr. Tzuko Toyama, to resign in 1943. What other Church institutions received similar treatment is still unknown, but it is to be feared that many suffered after the passage of the Religious Control Law. Civil authorities are known to have taken over the Central Theological Seminary, but shortly after, it was destroyed in a heavy bombing.

The bright side of the picture lies in the reports of praise for the faith of the Japanese Christians throughout the war, and in the promise of their clergy, no matter how scattered at present. With one exception, that of the Rev. Y. Nishida of Kyoto, all the clergy survived the bombing. The Rt. Rev. Peter Matsui, Bishop of Tokyo, considerably aged and rather weak, retired to the country shortly before his house and church were reduced to rubble. That which brings sadness to the hearts of all to whom the story of the Church in Japan is

familiar is the death of the Presiding Bishop, Yasutaro Naide. A double tragedy, the loss of both his sons, seems to have precipitated his death, for he was an old man: Bishop Naide was a real figure in the Nippon Sei Ko Kwai. He was one of the three Japanese deacons present at the first Japanese Synod in 1887 when the Church in Japan was organized. Outstanding in his faith from the time of his baptism as a boy, he was a true leader as he studied at St. Paul's, served at Trinity Church in Tokyo, led in the missionary work in Formosa, and guided what came to be the Diocese of Osaka. His was the first diocese to become selfsupporting, relinquishing all aid from the Church in America. With the passing of Bishop Naide, the Church in Japan loses a strong tie with its past.

#### Christian Leader Imprisoned

His successor as Presiding Bishop is Bishop P. S. Sasaki of Mid-Japan, whose efforts during the war to keep alive the spirit of the Church led to his own imprisonment, incommunicado, for ninety-five days. Under his leadership, the Nippon Sei Ko Kwai promises steady strides forward in the future, bringing strength and comfort to a shaken people who need the healing message of Jesus Christ.





During the war, St. John's University, Shanghai (left), exhibited extraordinary Christian leadership. Students (above). The Rev. K. T. Mau (left, below) led Soochow Academy during war.



HEN American missionaries were released from Shanghai internment camps, the first letters received from them told of the fine way in which Chinese leaders had been carrying on the Church's work under extremely difficult conditions. This confirmed the statement made by the Rt. Rev. W. P. Roberts when he had to leave Shanghai in 1943. He said at that time, "Bishop E. S. Yu (FORTH, June, 1944, p. 23) and his Standing Committee form one of the strongest groups of men that one could find in all China. They are shouldering their new responsibilities with great courage."

Bishop Yu accepted the hardships of life in the occupied city, did everything possible for his clergy, and even traveled inland to visit churches in the neighboring Anking diocese, which Bishop Robin Chen could not reach. Bishop Yu's health broke down at last and he died in April, 1944. During his last illness he was so anxious not to miss any of his appointments that he

once had himself carried on a stretcher to the church.

After his death, responsibility fell upon the head of the Standing Committee, the Rev. Hsipen Stephen Wei, rector of All Saints' Church, Shanghai. "Wei has carried on exceedingly well," reported George W. Laycock, Mission Treasurer, in his first letter after the war ended. Mr. Wei himself, in a letter urging the immediate return of Bishop Roberts, summarizes the damage done to the missions of the Shanghai diocese as far as could be learned.

In nine places the churches have been occupied by the Japanese military but services have been held in homes. The churches of course will need repair and reëquipment that must in some instances amount almost to rebuilding. In four other places, churches were partially occupied but could be used for services. In at least six other places, the churches have been destroyed or damaged beyond repair. Everywhere, the

# Report from th

CHRISTIANS GA

Chinese clergy have continued their work in every way possible.

The extraordinary record of St. John's University, Shanghai, is evidence of further Chinese leadership during the war. Under the Chinese layman, Dr. William J. L. Sung (FORTH, September, 1944, p. 17), acting president (recently resigned), enrollment in 1944-45 rose to the high record of 3,594 students in college and middle school, with 215 teachers. The graduate school was reopened and a school of agriculture organized, during the war. From 1938 to 1945 besides nearly two thousand students graduating from the school of arts and science, eleven were graduated from the



Thousands of destitute people (above) were aided by parishes and hospitals like St. Elizabeth's (below). The Rev. H. S. Wei (right) gave unfaltering leadership during the war.





# Orient: Il China

## TALWART LEADERSHIP

theological school, and 134 from the school of medicine. The middle school has had more than one thousand graduates in that time.

During the eight years of war it was impossible to make repairs, to add new buildings, or to keep the library and laboratories up to date, so, while everyone is thankful that Shanghai was recaptured with relatively little damage, extensive help will be needed to put St. John's in proper condition. The Chinese themselves have felt that numbers were too large, and accepted only ninety of the 340 who applied as new students for 1945-46. St. John's has opened under the direction of a committee consisting of the Rev. T.

M. Tong, dean of the Central Theological School, the Rev. H. S. Wei, and a layman, T. T. Woo, an alumni representative on the board of directors.

Japanese authorities compelled the addition of four Japanese teachers to the faculty during the war. One of them was the Rev. Paul M. Sekiya, whose father was vice-minister of the Imperial Household and whose mother was an energetic Christian who had Bible classes for the young peeresses of the court. The son studied in Cambridge, England, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1935 by the Rt. Rev. Peter Y. Matsui, Bishop of Tokyo, who retired recently.

When the Americans left Shanghai Bishop Roberts felt sure that St. Luke's and St. Elizabeth's Hospitals under Chinese management would continue to run if it were in any way possible. This they have done. A Japanese adviser was placed over each hospital at first, but when it was learned that the Church responsible for the hospitals was the same church that

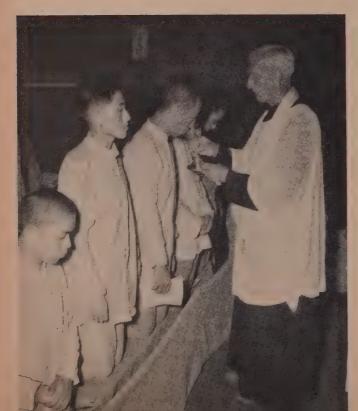
had built St. Luke's International Medical Center in Tokyo the advisers were withdrawn.

Not until last spring were the hospitals requisitioned by the Japanese military. They used St. Luke's, in its temporary quarters, for sick foreigners from the internment camps. The hospital is continuing to care for them, but Dr. F. S. Tsang has been bending every effort to secure other quarters in order to continue the hospital's normal work.

As soon as St. Elizabeth's Hospital was taken over by the Japanese, Dr. Amos Wong and his staff fitted up some of the rented houses which had been serving as staff dormitories as a clinic and a maternity ward of fifty beds. A later report says that he was ready to reopen the hospital but had no nurses. He hoped to start the training school at once. The union of St. Luke's and St. Elizabeth's, which was practically completed before the war, is awaiting more normal conditions.



# CHAPLAIN MINISTERS TO CHINESE IN BURMA





Capt. T. W. B. Magnan, Army chaplain, has made the most of a rare missionary opportunity in serving the Chinese in Burma. He acts as chaplain to the hospitalized and wounded, and as a direct result of his ministry patients turned an unused ward into a chapel. English classes (above, left) with the Bible as textbook stimulated services based on the life of Christ (above). Christian soldiers (left, below) helped to spread the Gospel and soon many were asking for baptism. Discharged patients returning to a nearby base requested that the classes and services be extended to them there. The Church's work among China's soldiers will have an important influence in shaping China's future.





U. S. Army Signal Corps Pho





Ruined church at Shuri is typical of destroyed missions in southwest Pacific.

# Bishop Confirms Gls

Servicemen choirs enriched the worship wherever Bishop Kennedy visited.





The Rt. Rev. Harry S. Kennedy, D.D., Bishop of Honolulu, made a tour late last summer of Okinawa and other far Pacific bases to confirm candidates He found the Church a great long prepared by chaplains. He also met many men considering Holy Orders. "All Christians must build upreality to the men he met in His visit, requested by Army and Navy chaplains, was given wholehearted on foundations laid by these hospitals and at services. approval by Churchman General Douglas A. MacArthur.



men for a better world."

At a field eucharist Bishop Kennedy assured servicemen of concern for their welfare felt by the Church at home. At Okinawa's Personnel Center he greeted men (center) who would soon return to active participation in the life of their home parishes.

Everywhere he had an opportunity to tell servicemen of need for clergy and trained workers in Church's worldwide mission.









The Rt. Rev. Harry S. Kennedy, D.D., welcomes Admiral of the Fleet, Chester W. Nimitz, to St. Andrew's Cathedral, Honolulu, for Navy Day services.

# HONOLULU SERVICE CENTER IS HOME AWAY FROM HOME

THE streets of downtown Honolulu are studded with the uniforms of servicemen. They move in crowds past the innumerable hotdog stands, sometimes stopping in the omnipresent shops where, by thrusting his head through a hole in the backdrop, a sailor can have his picture taken with his arms around a hula girl. They form long lines outside the YMCA.

Across the street from the YMCA, however, individual servicemen find a haven from the crowds. In the midst of this congestion of traffic and humanity, they enter a hedge-flanked gate to feel the cheerful, quiet atmosphere of St. Andrew's Cathedral. Next to it, in what was formerly the Bishop's House, is a service center for Army and Navy personnel which promises, after two months' operation, to become the heart of activity in the Pacific area, a. Home Away from Home, as the sign outside proclaims.

Before the present center opened, St. Andrew's had a tradition of close relations with the men of the Armed Forces. It was started in December, 1941, by Mrs. S. Harrington Littell, wife of the then bishop, who opened her home to the servicemen flooding the islands in defense of their country. At that time, there were few service agencies in the Territory, and the afternoon dances at the Bishop's House, its easy hospitality greatly helped the situation. For a while, daily luncheons were served at the cathedral. After the Littells left Honolulu, the activities were moved to two rooms in the parish buildings where men could come to relax, read periodicals, or chat. But lack of space sadly hampered activities.

Army, Navy, and Marines poured through on their way west. Others, including the Merchant Marine, used the island as base. As the battles of the Pacific increased in fury, hospitals and a rehabilitation center were set up in Hawaii. When Bishop Harry S. Kennedy, fresh from eighteen months of service as an Army chaplain, was consecrated, (FORTH, March, 1944, p. 6), the provisions for all these men were completely inadequate. At his request, the Army and Navy Commission sent out the Rev. Gordon M. Reese to study the situation.

The first need was for space, and the parish leaders put their heads together. The result of the first parley was the decision that the downtown section of Honolulu was not the ideal spot for Bishop and Mrs. Kennedy to bring up five children. Plans grew, a new house for the bishop was found, the Seabees helped him move, and the building next to the cathedral was vacant for use as a diocesan center.

A Red Cross girl, a member of the Episcopal Church, became interested in the project. Her group was in process of reorganization, and with time on their hands, many of them volunteered their services to help refurnish the house. The Seabees, who had already mended the cathedral's stained glass windows, joined the volunteers along with other servicemen, who were attracted by the friendly cooperative spirit in which the work was moving forward. One girl proved herself talented in interior decorating, and soon even the Marines were helping to make blue and yellow drapes and cushion covers. The Red Cross offered furniture, large comfortable sofas, known in Hawaii as punees, writing desks, and a piano. On October 14, all preparations were complete

and a grand opening was held of the new diocesan center.

The Service Center is not a USO. It serves others than military personnel. A neighboring Japanese rector, for instance, who needed a room for his Young People's Dinner, used it. It is a place of informality and relaxation, pressing no highly organized activity, although parties are frequent. A sailor strolls in the door, to be greeted by a smiling girl behind a reception desk. He learns from her where to find the kind of activity to suit him. He may wander into the living room and relax in one of the punees to catch up on the latest scuttlebutt with the fellow at the other end, or exchange pleasantries with one of the hostesses who come in from the parishes in the diocese. He may move to a desk in the enclosed porch to write a letter to his girl, or join in a pingpong tournament, and the subsequent refreshments always necessary. There is singing in informal groups around the piano, dancing on the veranda, and croquet on the lawn. Chaplain Reese can often be seen moving from group te group with his hearty laugh and handshake. Mrs. Reese presides smilingly. Officers and men from every racial group come together in relaxation.

The center is really a home away from home. Many boys spend here the difficult period of waiting for a passage back to their real homes. Willingly they perform extra tasks, such as unpacking cartons for the rector, jobs which break military routine and bring them closer to home. Older women make an important contribution to this spirit. One lovable Irish woman gained her own following of sailors who asked for passes from the ship on the days they knew she would be at the center. Often she took them home to dinner with her. A small annex with cots offers hospitality for the night for those with an overnight pass.

That which gives the center a character so distinctly its own is the cathedral, out of which it has all grown. The Canon, the Rev. Anson P. Stokes, Bishop Kennedy, and Mr. Reese are always on hand for a chat; they perform such pastoral services as the locating of a boy who has been wounded, for a family which have received no

Continued on page 37



Seabees and other members of the Armed Forces who gave generously of their time enjoy a party for their help in redecorating and furnishing the new service center.



Official U. S. Navy Photo

Chaplain Gordon M. Reese (right, foreground, above) meets a group of servicemen outside the Bishop's House (below) which has recently been turned over to the use of servicemen and women. Many racial groups enjoy its warm hospitality.





British Combine
Liberian mother and son pounding rice.

#### 1. Where is Liberia?

On the southwest coast of Africa, five degrees above the equator.

# 2. How is Liberia governed? It is the only republic in Africa.

3. How was the republic started? Negroes from the United States founded a settlement on the coast in 1822; it became a republic in 1847.

#### 4. What is the government?

A constitution, modeled on that of the United States.

#### 5. How large is Liberia?

Area, 45,000 square miles, about the size of Pennsylvania.

# 6. How many people? About two million.

#### 7. What effect has the original settlement on the present population?

Descendants of the settlers from the United States, now a small minority of the total population, live on the coast and administer most of the national government.

#### 8. What is the climate?

A dry season, December to April, alternates with a very wet season. The

# LIBERIA ABC's

During these months when the Churchman looks at Africa, perhaps with especial interest in Liberia, FORTH will publish a special series of articles on the Church in Liberia. Liberia A B C's will be followed next month with an article on health and medicine as seen by a missionary doctor.

days are hot. The nights may be cooler on the coast with a sea breeze or in the hill country inland.

## 9. What is the health?

Not too good but slowly improving.

#### 10. Why are conditions bad?

For several reasons, chiefly insufficient teaching of the laws of health together with inadequate provision for hospital or clinical care. Other causes: unhealthy diet, prevalence of intestinal parasites and disease-bearing insects, susceptibility to white man's disease, superstitions that involve harmful or dangerous practices, insanitary living conditions—not everywhere but common enough to be harmful.

#### 11. What work is done through the Episcopal Church to improve these conditions?

Timothy's Hospital, Cape Mount, besides its work of healing, does what it can to teach and demonstrate the laws of health. In the years when staff and supplies can be provided, four or five rural health stations are maintained. The Church coöperates with the American Mission to Lepers and will coöperate with the United States Public Health Service's present five-year program in Liberia. Gardening, homemaking, and care of children are taught by the Church schools. The Holy Cross Mission, Bolahun, has a hospital and extensive clinical work in the interior of the country.

# 12. What schools does the Episcopal Church have?

St. John's School for boys and the House of Bethany for girls are at Cape

Mount; the highest classes in each are combined for high school work. Emery School for girls is at Bromley, near Monrovia. The Holy Cross Mission has a school for boys and one for girls. The Church's few country day schools for young children will probably be increased as soon as funds permit.

# 13. What language is used in the schools?

The youngest children are taught in Vai; all other teaching is in English, the official language of the country. A dozen or more languages and dialects are spoken by the tribes in the hinterland.

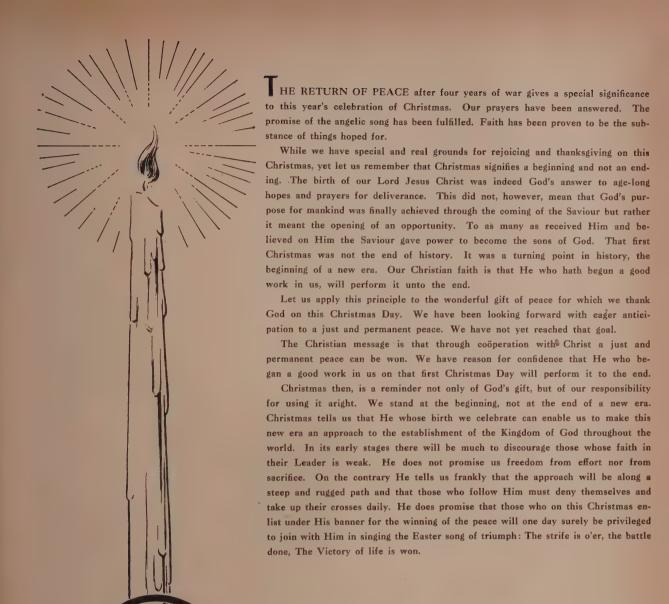
# 14. What industrial development is there?

Practically none except the Firestone rubber concession and the aviation bases. The airport on Fisherman Lake at Cape Mount was started just before the war by Pan American Airways and taken over by the United States during the war. Potentially the country's wealth is great; certainly agriculture and possibly mining will see large development in the future. At present Monrovia's harbor, the only sizable one on Liberia's 350-mile coastline, is being enlarged.

#### 15. How is traffic?

Scarce but interesting. There are no railroads and perhaps never will be. There are few motor roads now but they are being extended. Launches and hollowed-log *kinoos* are used on the rivers. Inland, the narrow forest trails and swinging bridges still serve as they have done for untold centuries.

Continued on page 35



HRISTMAS 1945

THE PRESIDING BISHOP

HE true glory of Christmas is that it is a feast day for the whole world; a feast day that makes the world one. So I found out some years ago on Christmas Day.

It was in Panama, where, with my wife and my children, I had found a refuge from Nazism. We were driving to St. Luke's Cathedral in Ancon in the Canal Zone, to go to the midnight service. On our way through the city we passed crowds of natives singing, dancing, celebrating Noel with merry noise and firecrackers. In the side streets it was quiet and as we came nearer to the Cathedral we heard the sound of voices, carolers singing from the gallery of the Cathedral tower. Joyful and strong, sweet and full of reverence, the beloved old melodies floated down to us, as we went into the church.

The night was still and peaceful. It drifted in through the open windows and the peace of nature outside mingled with the peace of the beautiful service inside. They became one and

# The Secret of Christmas

By WERNER A. BOHNSTEDT, S.P.D.

our hearts were filled with it and ready to accept the message that Christ the Saviour was born.

And then, as we came out again into the warm tropical night, and as I gazed up to the firmament with its countless stars and the moon brilliant against the dark leaves of majestic palm trees, it came to me with overwhelming strength, that all around the globe people were celebrating Christ's birth. That in all lands in all tongues, hymns of praise and adoration were ascending to the throne of God; the voices of millions of men and women and children joining with the symphony of the stars in one mighty in excelsis gloria.

This was when war already had started to darken the world. Still,

Wesley Bowman

and women and children sang the old songs of Christmas and listened to the message of peace on earth. Just as they had done through the centuries in times of other wars. What makes the Holy Night so

wherever there were Christians, men

What makes the Holy Night so strong that even war cannot weaken it? What is it, that even the pitiful secularization of Christmas and its commercialization can not taint its brightness and warmth? What is the secret of such strength and power?

How is it possible that year after year in ever more parts of the world people unite to celebrate such a simple and lowly thing as the birth of a Child, born to a family of plain folk in a small town in faraway Palestine? What again is the secret of such a strange thing?

This is the secret: Christ's birth was accompanied by the greatest and most beautiful promise, a promise that contains the most precious hope of mankind: *Peace*, righteous and eternal. The Prince of Peace was born; the Prince of Peace for all the world.

To many in a world that has just suffered the greatest slaughter in the history of the human race this sounds childish. Who, they say, can possibly believe in the truth of such a message when the evidence shows that even now there is little peace in the world.

But does this evidence really prove the angels and their message of peace wrong? Has the promise failed us, or have not we failed to live up to it? The promise still stands, the message is not less true today than it was thousands of years ago, if we will but take it seriously and act accordingly. The light still shineth, and the darkness has not put it out. The angel's message was meant for all. Let us pass it on to all people, that echoing back and forth, it becomes stronger and stronger until all men everwhere hear it and help to make it come true:

Peace on earth, good will toward men.



FORTH—December, 1945

BOOM . . . Boom . . . Boom . . .

"Let us now go even unto Bethlehem," Boom . . . Boom . . .

Boom . . . peal the ancient bells of Bethlehem on Christmas Day, their sound reaching out by radio to all lands and to the ends of the earth. Their deep notes carry us away with them to a little town of narrow winding streets, grey stone houses and domed roofs, resting on a hillside.

The heart of the little town is the Church of the Nativity, built over the stable where Christ was born. Reported to be the oldest Christian church surviving, its newest parts are fully fifteen hundred years old. We stoop to enter through a very low doorway, made small in olden times so that everyone entering the church. whether Christian or Mohammedan, would bow his head on entering. Once inside, we are in the great nave, with rows of massive pillars on either side supporting a roof of English oak erected by King Edward IV. Passing on into the body of the church, we enter the Grotto of the Nativity.

The Grotto is a long narrow cave of a type which abounds in Palestine and is still used by the people for stabling animals or storing grain. The walls are protected by stamped leather hangings, gift of Napoleon III, but the rough stone can still be touched through openings made purposely here and there. A soft dim light emanates from numbers of silver lamps hanging from the smoke-blackened roof, and under the altar is a large silver star set in the floor, with the words: Hic de Virgine Maria Jesu Christus natus est. Around the shrine burn other beautiful gold and silver lamps, all offerings, which have shone unquenched throughout the centuries. Stillness and peace hang breathless in the dim place, blessing the ever-present worshippers kneeling before the shrine.

Bethlehem keeps two Christmases: the Western and the Eastern or Greek, which falls twelve days later and is the chief in interest and beauty. On Christmas Eve, the Greek Patriarch drives in state to Bethlehem to the square outside the church, which is packed with townfolk and pilgrims from many lands. Here the priests attire the Patriarch in gold and scarlet vestments with the patriarchial crown



Three Lions
The vast congregation, full of faith and enthusiasm, remembers the day a Child was born.

# Christmas in Bethlehem

By ESTELLE BLYTH

and jewels. He enters the church surrounded by priests and choir with crosses and banners, chanting as they go, and the crowd surges in behind.

The midnight eucharist begins about ten o'clock. Like all the services of the Greek Church, it is full of beauty and symbolism, but it is very long, lasting often until four in the morning of Christmas Day. The magnificent robes of the Patriarch and clergy, the rich ecclesiastical jewels and golden ikons, the banners, crosses, and silver censers, the rise and fall of the chanting, weave an atmosphere of brilliance and color. The picturesque dress of the people of Bethlehem supplies the background, as worshippers

fill every corner of the great building.

That vast congregation, full of faith and enthusiasm, turns one's thoughts back along the years to the brief day of the Christian Kingdom and the kings who knelt here to pray even as all are kneeling now; to the Crusades, romantic medleys of faith and ferocity: to the endurance of the early pilgrims as they toiled from shrine to shrine, and their sufferings at the hands of the Saracens; to David, shepherd, king, and poet; and to that night when, ignored by temporal rulers but welcomed by angels, stars, and shepherds, by wise men and by humble beasts, a Child was born in Bethlehem.





And pray you my masters be merrie! from Boar's Head song follows trumpeter's call.

Lighting Yule Candle is highlight of pas

# ANCIENT YULE FESTIVAL BRINGS CHRISTMAS JOY

Each year at Christmas, for more than half a century, the Hoosac School, in the Hoosick Valley of upper New York State, has presented a Yule Log festival. It was first brought to the valley by the Rev. E. Dudley Tibbetts who celebrated it in his own home before founding the school. The ceremony probably comes as close to the age-old spirit of Christmas with its gladness and hope as anything in the United States. This year many former students released from the Armed Forces will be present to make the occasion particularly festive.

By ALIDA MALKUS

UESTS hasten in the cold a through the deepening twiligh the snow crunching underfoo to gain the twinkling windows of th buildings ahead. The roads windin through the Hoosick Valley are fille with people all heading for the sma Gothic chapel and the cluster of quair and somewhat shabby old red build ings, once an inn, which lie behind it It is one week before Christmas, an they are moving toward the grea Tudor hall of the Hoosac School t celebrate with a Yule Log pagean the approach of the most joyous tim of the year.

An air of expectancy reigns insid the crowded hall, lit only by candle which glimmer on shining wreaths and holly-bedecked rafters. Suddenly, al candles are extinguished; a silver trumpet note cuts the thick darkness As if from far off, a pinpoint of ligh





meaning in Let all mortal flesh keep silence.

The Jester transports guests for a magic space back into sixteenth-century England.

oves slowly to the center of the room, adding the youngest boy, who is clad the green and red of a Christmas write. Moving on tiptoe, he bears the shlight from which to kindle the hristmas candle, a symbol of the hrist Child coming to light the world. As he lights the stub of last year's andle, the oldest boy enters in court-Elizabethan dress, and with the d, lights the new Yule taper.

The room springs out of shadow. The table, the hand-wrought silver, the wassail mugs, the rafters wreathed holly are gleaming points in a near of light. Twelve stalwart attendants in the traditional costume Yeomen of the Guard of the Tower London have kindled their tapers of the Yule candle. A boy sopranous the joyous spirit of the gathering the The Cherry Tree Carol:

He neither shall be clothed

In purple nor in pall,

But in the fair white linen

That usen babies all.

In a tapestry of color, the pageant begins.

First comes a long and stately procession of pages in Elizabethan splendor, satins and velvets, ruffs of stiffened lace, furred robes, and tinkling bells. They carry in with great ritual, singing the special carol, the Boar's Head, lordly dish of the banquet. After it come the other dishes, mince pie, plum pudding, a great Stilton cheese, to fill the board to overflowing. The singing becomes more spontaneous, each carol accompanying part of the pageant, and one by one, all the old survivals of pagan joy and Christian promise are observed, symbolizing the chief and inner beauties sought by man.

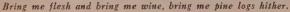
The shepherds bring a gift of cher-

ries to the child. Hail, comely and clean! Hail, young child! The old French carol of the three kings seems to sway to the slow dignity of a camel's tread. Good King Wenceslas brings a moving recognition from medieval days of man's equality. Page and monarch forth they went, forth they went together. Then, in purest recognition of the spirit of God in man, a boy soprano sings Let all mortal flesh keep silence, the most ancient of all Christian hymns, translated from the Greek.

With customs, with carols which have endured and been cherished because they rejoice men, the festival continues to express the spontaneous joy in every heart. Deck the halls with boughs of holly, to make ready for the Christmas sprites, who bring in the Yule Log, a five-foot pine, cured

Continued on next page







We three Kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar.

# Ancient Yule Festival --- continued

for at least three years. The log is soon crackling, kindled, as by custom, from last year's brand, and the music and warmth of the flames set the scene for the mummer's play.

Pagan antiquity saw the first performance of this mummer's play as a rite of nature worship in a fertility cult. English countryfolk took it over as the medieval St. George's play, out of which the religious significance was soon lost. St. George kills the dragon, Winter, which is revived and found to be a harmless beast. In the pageant, it is bucolic humor, childlike wit, and a complete and carefree extravagance which puts all into a spirit of fun to welcome the jester. He, the ancient Lord of Misrule, with the aid of the wassail bowl, transports all the

guests for a magic space back into old England.

A bone, God wot
Sticks in my throat;
Without I have a draft of corny ale,
Nappy and stale,
My life is in great waste.

Observing the old Saxon toast to good health, the wassail bowl goes the rounds until the last berry is gone from the mistletoe.

As the pageant draws to a close, the carols of the waifs arise, Let poor minstrels move your pity, Give us welcome, soothe our care. They are answered cheerily with God rest you merry, gentlemen; Hail, Father Christmas, and many others. As one carol follows another, and the Yule Log

dies down, merriment changes into a more softened mood. The most beautiful carols, perfected by bards and musicians down through the centuries now are sung.

I sing of a maiden that is make-les
(matchless)
King of all Kings to her son she ches
He came al so stille, (chose)
There his mother was,
As dew in April that falleth on the
grass.

After Silent Night, boyish voices are raised in a closing carol. God bless us all, both great and small, and send us Christmas cheer. The pageant is over and guests are leaving, but as they leave the huddled snow-covered buildings of the little school, they take with them a vision of beauty and brotherhood, of innocent happiness which has lived in these folk songs and customs from the heart of time.

Come bring with your noise, ye merrie boys, the Christmas log.

Wassail bowl goes rounds. God bless the masters of this house.





HIS book makes no claim to profound Biblical scholarship. . . . Like many another enthusiast for one thing or another, I want the fun of explaining that enthusiasm, and perchance, of inculcating it," writes Mary Ellen Chase in The Bible and the Common Reader (New York, Macmillan, \$2.50). Miss Chase who is professor of English at Smith College and author of the recent best seller, Windswept, is excited about reading the Bible. She is convinced that it is a stimulating experience not, only because of its religious significance, but because it is great and moving literature. She is eager, too, to share her secret, to persuade everyone that with only a few basic requirements in scholarly research, which she herself supplies in friendly fashion, but with careful accuracy, the Bible can become to any reader an exciting combination of history and fiction.

The Bible is outstanding for its tremendous range; as a literary document, it includes every possible form of writing: songs, riddles, fables, short stories, a novel, poetry, drama, biography, letters, and philosophical prose. Between its covers, there are portrayals of every aspect of human nature and the business of living. Samson is a typical folk hero, molded by a later pious editor into a moral character. David is as complex a personality as the hero of any modern psychological novel. The land of



# The Bible Can Be Exciting

Canaan, with its changing fate, is the world in miniature. The authors of the various books of the Bible, particularly the prophets, are all individuals worth meeting. Each one wields his own influence; the author of the source known as JE arouses patriotic fervor, the poets of the Psalms unveil the world of natural beauty, the translators of the King James Version have left their permanent mark on the English language.

With Miss Chase's help, the books of the Bible come alive. The power Paul felt in his message makes even his discussion of hats in church interesting. In the Old Testament, the sections which may at one time have seemed dull and heavy become part of the chronological story of a people, based on history, studded in such figures as Elijah, Elisha, and Jonah, with real humor. Probably the most confusing book in the Bible, Revelation, becomes a great drama which St. John wrote to encourage other Christians,

who, like himself, were suffering for their beliefs.

In *The Bible and the Common Reader*, none of the Biblical stories are retold or summarized. Miss Chase merely hints at the content, and creates a situation to which there is only one solution, reading the whole story, so that none of its suspense, color, characterization, or meaning will be lost. The best way to read *The Bible and the Common Reader* is slowly, with a King James Version next to it.

Miss Chase is not afraid in her book to make use of historical information; in fact, it is by this means that the stories of the Old Testament are made vivid. This period of history at the very beginning of Western Civilization when empires first came into existence makes for fascinating study, particularly with recent archeological advances and discoveries. The Westminster Press has recently published two books of a series known as Aids to the Study of the Scriptures, which bring the long centuries productive of the literature of the Bible into sharp focus. The Westminster Dictionary of the Bible (Philadelphia, Westminster Press, \$3.50) is an up-to-date revision of Davis' Bible Dictionary, a book already accepted by scholars everywhere as the catalog of Biblical information. The Westminster Historical Atlas to the Bible (Philadelphia, Westminster Press, \$3.50) is, as its title indicates, not only atlas but history. Relief maps in full color and other illustrations of old and new activities in the Holy Land are supported by the most modern historical and archeological information, presented in nontechnical language.

An entirely different kind of study is found in George Stimpson's A Book About the Bible, (New York, Harpers,

Continued on page 38

Johann Gutenberg printed the first book, the Mazarin Bible, in 1456.





Many buildings in Mountain Province lay in ashes and rubble. At Sagada, Chaplain W. H. Bierck found remains of house he occupied as a missionary there (above). Hundreds of Igorots gathered for service in basement of Sagada Girls' School (right).

# By the Rt. Rev. NORMAN S. BINSTED, D.D.

JEEP and trailer stopped before my door at an early hour. Chaplain W. Hubert Bierck and his assistant, Sgt. Edward Ferguson, a postulant for Holy Orders, had arrived to take me to the Mountain Province, my first visitation since the beginning of the war.

The trailer was packed with blankets, foodstuffs, and such clothing and shoes as we had been able to collect for our workers in the mountains. Our two native priests, the Rev. Edward Longid and the Rev. Albert Masferré, who had spent a week with me at Manila, accompanied us.

We arrived in Baguio about 7:30 p. m., had dinner at a Chinese restaurant in one of the wrecked buildings on the main street, and then went to the Mission House at Easter School where we spent the night. Although this building is occupied by about thirty-five Igorot refugees, they made us very comfortable and next morning served a delicious breakfast. Where the food came from and how they were able to prepare it so well under

# Report from the Orie

BISHOP BINSTED RETURNS TO MOUNTA



such adverse circumstances, I do not know, but the Igorots have an innate sense of hospitality which enables them to surmount any difficulties.

The Church of the Resurrection in Baguio can be repaired. Services are being held in it, and I left an order to have the building patched up temporarily, to keep the rain out. The rectory also can be put into shape. The parish house was not damaged at all. The Brent School buildings are in fairly good condition and are used by the U. S. Army as a hospital.

Easter School buildings, except the foreign residence, were entirely destroyed.

Leaving Baguio we went on to Sagada, where Chaplain Bierck used to work. He writes of this return, "To one who had known the mission and worked there for five years, it was not a happy sight, that first look. We remembered a fine group of buildings, put up over the years, which one glimpsed at a distance from the trail approaching Sagada. There were no red-painted galvanized iron roofs to be seen. The church, years in building, where thousands of faithful souls had, over a long time, gathered to pay

# Trip Shows Bishop's Su

Chaplain W. Hubert Bierck, formerly a m sionary in Sagada, arranged for Bishop Binst to return for the first time since the beginni of the war to Sagada, Baguio, and Bontoc, study the needs of the Mountain Province.

One thing stands out in this trip: our Bis op's supreme courage and superb faith. Ma times we heard him say to little groups people: "I am so glad that you are safe; new mind the destruction of the material fabr It will spring up again. There is no questi about that. The important thing is that yeare safe and have kept your faith and it domitable spirit. Trust God."

homage to the Incarnate Lord—where was it? Only a shell is left. The walls are standing and appear to be strong. What is left of the altar is there, covered with rubble. The floor, of hand-hewn blocks of stone laid in

# : III The Philippines

ROVINCE FIRST TIME SINCE THE WAR





Easter School buildings at Baguio (left) are entirely destroyed. Mrs. Edward Longid, wife of a native priest who accompanied the Bishop, and a Filipina Sister of St. Mary (above) are leaders a mong Church women in Philippines.

# Courage: Superb Faith

One thought of another, Bishop Mosher, who used to teach our confirmands to say: O Dios Espirito Santo, badangam saken. "O God, Holy Spirit, help me." And then the first Missionary Bishop of the Philippines, Charles Henry Brent, who could pen these lines: "There are but two great realities in the vast universe-the heart of God and the heart of man, and each is ever seeking the other. It is this that makes adventure for God not an experiment, but a certainty." One knows that the Mission of the Church goes forward with such men of God and of vision, who have been our leaders, and will go forward under the Bishop who now guides the destinies of the Church's work in these liberated Islands.

squares, may be in good condition. We could not get to the bottom of the debris. One or two of the stone columns look like the truncated trees along the mountain trail."

We shall have to have an engineer's

decision as to whether the church walls are safe to use in this country where earthquakes are rather frequent. Three residences were completely destroyed, except for the stone foundations. The high school building, the seminary dormitory, the Igorot industry building, are all a heap of ashes. The kitchen end of the doctor's residence was badly damaged.

The girl's dormitory roof had been damaged but has been repaired, and the basement is being used as a temporary church. It can accommodate about 400 people and it will make a decent place for services until a new church can be erected. St. Theodore's Hospital building will need repairs before it can be used.

Next morning at ten I assisted Chaplain Bierck at a celebration of the Holy Communion and made an address to the congregation. Although there was little time to get word to our Christians about the service, there was a congregation of approximately 500. In spite of all their losses and hardships during the war, they were full of optimism about the Church and anxious to have the missionaries return as soon as possible to shepherd them. It was evident that Father

Longid had been an excellent priest to his people all during the years of the war and had their absolute confidence and affection.

In Bontoc, the church building, rectory, boys' school, and two residences are in total ruins. The walls of the girls' dormitory are standing and seem to me to be as strong as ever although fragments from bombs had penetrated, in some instances making holes a foot in diameter. Father Masferré will have the floor put back, for the large assembly room, which can then be used as a temporary church.

Next morning I celebrated the Holy Communion in the house of the mayor, who is a Churchman. There were about 150 or 200 present for this service. Here again the spirit was excellent and I felt that our Church has come out of the war stronger than ever in spite of the material losses.

Shortly after this visit to the Mountain Province I was able to go by plane to Zamboanga. Dr. and Mrs. José C. Trota put me up. Dr. Trota, formerly at Brent Hospital, remained there even after the Japanese entered Zamboanga. When he

Continued on page 35







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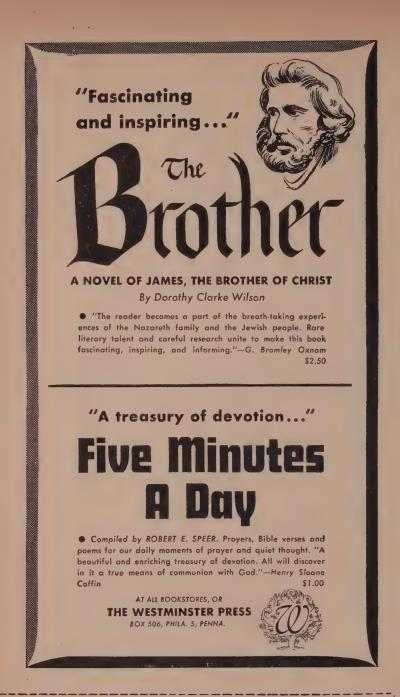
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# CHURCHMEI



Patrice Munsel, twenty-year-old Metropolitan Opera star, is a member of Spokane's Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

THE control room flashed the goahead signal. The conductor rapped his baton on the stand. A young girl separated herself from a chattering group of choristers and walked to the microphone with the poise and assurance which made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera an outstanding event of the 1944 season. Patrice Munsel, twenty-year-old Church girl from Spokane, Wash., had come a long way since she sang her first solo at St. John's Cathedral Church school at the age of five. She took her place eagerly at the microphone for her part in the Pridential Family Hour, broadcast every Sunday over the CBS network, and waited for the opening bars of The Waltz Song. The beautiful aria, sung in her fresh, young voice, filled the old church, now used as a CBS theater, and gave her co-workers a tantalizing taste of the pleasure which awaited those who heard her sing Romeo and Juliet in her first performance of this season at the Metropolitan Opera House.

Pat Munsel is probably one of the most envied young women in America today, yet she gets stars in her eyes when she thinks about the good fortune which has been hers in the past three years. Her enthusiasm for everything is as strenuous as her physical energy, and her entrance into a group

# n the NEWS

of people brings a buoyant spirit which is transmitted to all present. Success has only enriched and broadened her ability to pass on happiness to others.

Miss Munsel grew up in Spokane, where her father is a dentist. The Munsels attend the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist and Mrs. Munsel was a member of the Dean's Guild before coming to New York with her daughter. Pat was baptized, and confirmed at the cathedral at the age of twelve. The Very Rev. Charles E. McAllister has been her rector since childhood.

She and the Dean will be making plans someday soon for her marriage to Lieut. William R. Porter, Army pilot, to whom she became engaged last summer. Lieut. Porter and Pat met in Church school, and he was one of the cathedral servers.

Singing in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas gave Pat her first operatic experience. She was active in dramatics, too, at the Spokane public schools. Her first radio experience came in high school when she sang for school broadcasts.

She inherited her love for music from her mother, who has been her constant companion and who accompanies her during her many hours of daily vocalizing. Long before she studied voice Pat took artistic whistling lessons which gave her a "feel" for the coloratura feats for which she now is noted. She came to New York to study voice just two years before she won the Metropolitan Auditions of the Air and became the wunderkind of the Metropolitan.

She made her debut as Philene in Mignon on December 4, 1943, at the age of eighteen, and received an ovation which stopped the performance for seven minutes. Since then she has sung the most difficult of the coloratura roles in the Metropolitan's roster, including Rigoletto, The Barber of Seville, The Tales of Hoffmann, Lucia di Lammermoor, and Le Coq d'Or, the latter in English, which gave her an opportunity to use her whistling skill.

Christmas Eve will find the Munsels at St. Bartholomew's Church, where

Continued on page 31



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# CHURCHMEN in the News---continued

they attend church in New York. Pat is fond of devotional music and has a deep appreciation of the therapeutic value of music. One of her favorite songs which she frequently uses as an encore is *The Lord Gave Me a Song* which has very special significance for her. Popular religious songs such as *Ave Maria* and *The Lord's Prayer* are among the most frequently requested of the songs she sings over the radio. It was *The Lord's Prayer* which she sang as a solo in St. John's Cathedral just before coming to New York to start her career.

#### Youngest President

IEUT. David Worcester, USNR, will become the twelfth president of 133-year-old Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y., following his discharge from the Armed Forces. One of the youngest men ever to assume the presidency of Hamilton College, Lieut. Worcester's family has been closely connected with the Church. He is a son of the late Rev. Elwood Worcester, for twenty-five years rector of Boston's Emmanuel Church, and is a grandson of the late Rt. Rev. Nelson S. Rulison. Bishop of Erie. He is a direct descendant of the Rev. William Worcester who founded Salisbury, Mass., in the 1630's, and numbers among his forebears Joseph Worcester, the lexicographer, and Gordon Saltonstall, first Governor of Connecticut.

On leave of absence as chairman of the English Department of Michigan State College, Lieut. Worcester has been an instructor and assisted in the administration of the Naval Air Combat Intelligence School at Quonset Point, R. I., and later served in the Anti-Submarine Development Detachment. He helped to set up training courses, lectured to air crews, and wrote technical Navy manuals on tactics, weapons, and fire controls—a far cry from his prewar occupations as a scholar, student of the classics, and the author of *The Art of Satire*.

He graduated from Groton School in 1924, and did part of his undergraduate work at Harvard, where he was an editor of the *Harvard Crimson*. He graduated from Hobart in 1929,



Lieut. David Worcester, USNR, is twelfth president of Hamilton College.

where he majored in Greek and Latin and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Phi. Besides graduate work at Harvard, where he was senior tutor at Lowell House, he has studied at English universities.



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Continued from page 7

understand how worthwhile this has been. It is impossible to overestimate the appreciation of those far away of even an outdated parish weekly calendar. It is not too late to begin, for still there are many in the service and this period of waiting for demobilization is the most difficult so far as morale is concerned. Rectors and parishioners should familiarize themselves with their Service Roll. These young men and women will not desire adulation. But when they come home they have a right to expect that their service will be known and their return welcomed.

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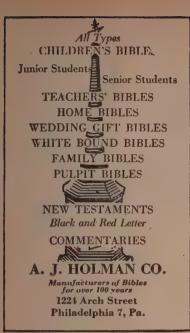
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Continued from page 32

learned at firsthand the price we have paid for victory. Some of them will return disillusioned, even embittered. Many will be tired of other peoples and lands. From such a temper sprang isolationism. But by far the greatest pumber will return with vision widened, with seriousness of purpose and with the burning conviction that this world must be so organized that their children will not have to repeat their trials. Here is the material of which a stronger Church can be built.

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"How shall they believe in Flim of whom they have never heard?"

ROMANS 10:14



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#### Liberia A B C's Continued from page 16

16. What effect had the war on Liberia?

During the war, dislocation of foreign shipping, on which this small coastal country so largely depends, diminished trade and income, making imports scarce and costly, and exports hard to sell, with resulting unemployment and poverty. This condition was offset to some degree by the growth of aviation and the activities of a military base.

#### 17. What is the religious situation ?

Except along the coast, where the early settlers brought Christianity and where many Christian bodies have been at work, the great majority of the people have not yet been touched by Christianity. Their primitive religion binds up most of their lives in a net of superstition and fear, with endless observances and ceremonies chiefly intended to placate malevolent spirits. Not all tribal customs are bad: some are wholesome and valuable, and these the Church tries to encourage and preserve, but most of them are stultifying at their best and vicious at their worst.

In the interior, Mohammedanism has filtered down from northern Africa and claims many adherents, some of whom are hostile to the approach of Christianity and some are friendly.

Along the coast and penetrating to some extent inland, missionaries of several Churches are at work, Methodist and African Methodist, Baptist and African Baptist, Lutheran and, in recent years, Roman Catholic.

Exact figures for the Episcopal Church have not been available dur-

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#### Report from Philippines Continued from page 25

heard that he was to be arrested, he and his family escaped to join the guerrillas in the mountains. When the Americans occupied Zamboanga he returned and has resumed private practice.

Zamboanga is in total ruins. Concrete foundation posts are the only remnants of Brent Hospital. [It stood throughout the war but was destroyed by the shelling and bombing that preceded the American landing last March.] There is nothing left of the school buildings. The land is used by a tank division of the American Army. At the beginning of the war the American Army took over the property at Calarian on which stood the Mission of the Good Shepherd and a residence. These they demolished to make room for a new airfield but there was not time to build it before the invasion of the Japanese.

ing the war. There are probably between 2,000 and 3,000 communicants. Liberia is the only diocese of the American Church in Africa.



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# Bishop Confirms Lepers

THE Rt. Rev. Reginald Heber Gooden recently made his first visitation to Holy Comforter Mission in Palo Seco. Canal Zone, where he confirmed two lepers, one an elderly British West Indian, and one a young leper of thirty years of age. The candidates were prepared for confirmation by a Churchman who is a member of the leper colony.

The leper colony at Palo Seco is a modern institution operated by the United States Government. Dr. Ezra Hurwitz, the superintendent, and Mrs. Hurwitz are Jewish, but are both helpful and generous in their interest in Holy Comforter Chapel, for which Dr. Hurwitz is having some furniture made, and Mrs. Hurwitz is embroidering a new altar cloth.

Celebrations of the Holy Communion have been held in the chapel each Monday morning for many years; with Archdeacon Nightengale as priestin-charge. Since his arrival in the Canal Zone, Bishop Gooden has been conducting the services as well as those at the Corozal Mental Hospital and St. Paul's Church, Panama City, in the absence of the Archdeacon who is on vacation in Jamaica.

THE PRESIDING BISHOP opened President Truman's Conference on Labor and Industry in Washington, D. C., on November 5 with an invocation. For the past seven years Bishop Tucker has called an annual conference at the College of Preachers, Washington, where problems of capital, management, and labor are discussed by outstanding leaders.

# Check Your Calendar

#### DECEMBER

- 2 Advent Corporate Communion for men
- 4-6 National Council Meeting
- 23 Church of the Air. Columbia Network. 10 a.m. E.S.T. The Rt. Rev. Austin Pardue, D.D.
- 25 Christmas Day

#### **JANUARY**

Preparation for Parish Canvass Reconstruction & Advance Fund

- New Year's Day
- The Epiphany
- 27 Theological Education Sunday

# Forth Is Most Popular

"On my bookcase I carry copies of Christianity and Crisis, The Christian Century, The Witness, FORTH, and The Churchman," says Chaplain Robert L. Curry stationed in a General Hospital. "After Episcopal services the men drop into my office to pick up what they want to read, and I notice that FORTH is far and away the most popular magazine."

The Church of the Epiphany, Vacaville, Calif., and other missions under the charge of the Rev. C. Peter Boes, are the most recent additions to the one hundred per cent parish subscription list. St. James' Church, Batavia, N. Y., and St. Paul's Church, Stafford, N. Y., have renewed their complete parish subscription lists to receive the Western New York edition of FORTH.

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# Home Away from Home Continued from page 15

word. And the church is always open. On Sunday, services are held throughout the day at the cathedral to enable all different working groups to attend. An evening service is held especially for chaplains whose duties are not over until then, for the center is regarded by chaplains in the Pacific as their headquarters, and the source of many of their supplies.

All the activities of the cathedral are carried out in closest cooperation with the Army and Navy, hospitals, Red Cross, and other organizations. Each one is willing to help, appreciative of the work of St. Andrew's. The Church faces the men with a gesture of welcome, never for a moment asking for support from a hand unready to give it. As a result, many servicemen have grown to know a deep faith, drawn by this spirit of friendliness. At St. Andrew's, many have found their way back to a Church deserted in childhood, perhaps even to a career in the Christian ministry. At the eleven o'clock service, two-thirds to threefourths of the congregation are servicemen. They come with a sense of belonging and sing the hymns lustily. Afterwards, one hundred and fifty or two hundred of them stay for Sunday dinner in the parish hall, since they are unable to return to their posts in time to eat.

The servicemen in Honolulu have been close to the reality of life and death. Many of them have learned to want the Church. They want it as they see it operating in the Service Center at St. Andrew's, a warm friend-liness that ministers, before an altar which is always waiting.

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# Under Our Reading Lamp

Continued from page 23

\$3.50), a curious collection of every possible question about the Bible which has entered the head of the common reader. Mr. Stimpson is a newspaper man with a flair for collecting interesting bits of information, and he has in this book published the result of years of exploration into any and all subjects remotely connected with the Bible. He describes his book as "a series of short essays on many Biblical matters, ranging in length from a sentence or two to several pages." The questions include everything from "What does forward mean?" to "Why is Jesus called the Good Shepherd?" and are located by a careful and detailed Index.-C. W.

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Prince Hubertus zu Loewenstein, however, has taken advantage of this lack of information in his most recent book, The Child and the Emperor, (New York, Macmillan, \$1.50) to fill the intervening years with a new stock of legendary material of great depth. Although the writing lends an atmosphere of great validity to the events in the story, the author does not pretend to historic fact. Like the earliest writers of legends, he is using

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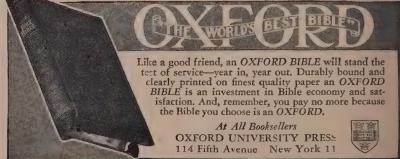
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